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Are you a prosecutor handling domestic violence cases in your community? Do you want to strengthen your skills to better serve victims and hold offenders accountable? Join us this June 20-22 for the National Institute on the Prosecution of Domestic Violence (NIPDV)!

NIPDV is a three-day virtual course designed to challenge participants to reevaluate their approach to prosecuting domestic violence. The curriculum is grounded in evidence-based prosecution, equipping prosecutors with the skills and strategies to hold offenders accountable regardless of whether victims are able to testify at trial. In addition to

practical case evaluation and litigation skills, the NIPDV focuses on risk assessment, coordinated community responses, trauma-informed interviewing, strangulation, intimate partner sexual assault, co-occurring crimes, witness intimidation and forfeiture by wrongdoing, presentation of evidence at trial, expert testimony, cultural humility, jury selection, and ethical considerations.

Through a combination of hypothetical case scenarios, participant exercises, small group discussions, interactive lectures, and faculty demonstrations, participants will re-examine their own beliefs about domestic violence and refine their prosecution practices. The highly interactive format enables prosecutors from different jurisdictions, with varied levels of experience, to learn from one another and engage in "real-life" scenarios that are readily transferable to their everyday work. At the end of the Institute, participants will be better equipped to hold offenders of domestic violence criminally accountable while centering victims' needs and voices throughout the process.

THE DETAILS

-June 20-22, 2023

-Each day of the course will run from 11 AM – 1 PM ET and 2 – 5 PM ET (8 AM – 10 AM PT and 11 AM – 2 PM PT)

-The course will be capped at 54 participants

-Selected participants will receive an invitation to formally register through a virtual platform

ELIGIBILITY

-Must currently be employed as a prosecutor in a local, state, or tribal prosecutor's office in the United States

-Must handle domestic violence crimes — all experience levels welcome

INTERESTED?

Email info@aequitasresource.org to indicate your interest in attending the Institute

Within your email, please include the following:

-Name

-Jurisdiction and state

-Number of years prosecuting domestic violence crimes

- A commitment to attend and participate in all three days of the Institute, or an explanation for any potential or confirmed conflicts
- A brief explanation (1-2 sentences) of your interest in the Institute and/or why you should be considered
- Whether your office receives funding through the U.S. DOJ Office of Violence Against Women's Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Grant Program
- Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and decisions will be made no later than May 20, 2023. Please submit your application as soon as possible!

ANY QUESTIONS?

Feel free to email us at info@aequitasresource.org

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STRATEGIES IN FOCUS



Yolo County, California

In an effort to better understand prosecutorial data and increase transparency with the community, the [Yolo County District Attorney's Office](#) has used the Smart Prosecution/Innovative Prosecution Solutions (IPS) grant to invest in several efforts to enhance information sharing between agencies and with the public. As a first step, the

office brought together crime analysts and liaisons from different regional agencies to create a centralized data-sharing network.

This partnership has already proven invaluable; recently, the office used cellphone tracking technology to identify two serial sex offenders who had assaulted women within Yolo County and across the state. Analysts were able to place each offender at the scene of numerous attacks, and in one instance, were able to show that the offender visited the crime location several times in the prior year—in direct contradiction of his defense.

The office also works with federal, state, and local law enforcement to address persistent crime issues, such as catalytic converter theft and retail “smash-and-grab” group crimes. Beyond its IPS grant work, it has also cross-designated an Assistant District Attorney as a Special Assistant United States Attorney to focus on drug trafficking crimes in the area.

To complement this collaboration with law enforcement, Yolo County also partnered with the Yolo County [Multi-Cultural Community Council](#) (MCCC) and [Measures for Justice](#) to create a [justice transparency portal](#). This website allows citizens to track crime trends, read about the DA’s policy goals, and better understand prosecution decisions pertaining to referrals, charging, diversion, and sentencing. Finally, the District Attorney and the MCCC host [town hall meetings](#) to discuss important issues with the community—including racial disparity in the criminal justice system, fatal drug overdoses, the connection between guns and domestic violence, and trauma experienced by victims of crime.

To learn more about Yolo County’s new transparency portal, please refer to the following [webinar](#).

CASE HIGHLIGHT

[*United States v. Hansen, 143 S. Ct. 555 \(2022\).*](#)

Issue: Whether the federal criminal prohibition against encouraging or inducing unlawful immigration for commercial advantage or private financial gain, in violation of 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iv) and (B)(i), is facially unconstitutional on First Amendment overbreadth

grounds.

Between October 2012 and September 2016, Helaman Hansen operated an organization called Americans Helping America Chamber of Commerce (“AHA”). AHA ran a program that purported to help undocumented immigrants obtain U.S. citizenship through adult adoption, and Hansen told his immigrant victims that many individuals had obtained their citizenship through this program. In reality, not one person received citizenship through AHA’s adult adoption program, but Hansen continued to lie to victims and take their money in exchange for promises of citizenship. Additionally, there were two immigrants whom Hansen convinced to overstay their visas on the basis that they would be able to earn citizenship through AHA’s adoption program. Hansen even hired one of the victims to do odd jobs for him under the table following the expiration of the victim’s visa. Based on his actions involving those two immigrants, Hansen, who was already being charged with numerous counts of fraud, was also charged with two counts under 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iv) of encouraging or inducing unlawful immigration for private financial gain.

Hansen appealed his convictions under 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iv) on constitutional grounds. He argued that the statutory provision is facially overbroad, void for vagueness, unconstitutional as applied to him, and a content- and viewpoint-based criminal prohibition of speech that cannot survive strict scrutiny. The Ninth Circuit agreed with Hansen, vacated his convictions under 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iv), and remanded the case to the district court for resentencing. The Supreme Court granted certiorari in the case to evaluate the First Amendment overbreadth issue.

The Supreme Court heard oral arguments on March 27, 2023, and has yet to hand down a decision in the case. The Court’s questions to the advocates during argument highlight that it could possibly constrain or even do away entirely with the overbreadth doctrine, which allows a litigant to challenge a statute on its face as being too broad or chilling the expression rights of third parties not party to the suit. The justices presented numerous hypotheticals to the government, but many of them seemed to conclude that the history of prosecutions under this statute does not show any significant chilling of speech, meaning the law would not be overbroad and therefore constitutional.



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UPCOMING TRAININGS



June 13-15, 2023, Cincinnati, OH: Beyond the Basics: Advancing Human Trafficking Investigations and Prosecutions

Traffickers inflict trauma on their victims through various forms of force, fraud, and coercion. Often, traffickers identify and exploit individuals who have previously suffered trauma in their lives. Offender tactics and methods of coercive control can exacerbate victims' responses to trauma and foster distrust between victims and criminal justice system professionals. However, police, prosecutors, and allied partners have a unique opportunity to disrupt the cycle of victimization, trauma, and distrust.

What is Beyond the Basics? This is a free, in-person, 2.5-day advanced human trafficking training taking place in Cincinnati, Ohio. This event is for law enforcement and prosecutors to provide innovative, practical, and trauma-informed strategies to enhance victim-centered responses, and offender-focused investigations and prosecutions. This course is highly interactive and scenario-based.

This training will provide information on:

- How traffickers recruit victims from within the criminal justice system;
- Methods to investigate sex trafficking in a post-Backpage world;
- Investigative strategies that do not rely on victim testimony to identify evidence of labor and sex trafficking;
- Trauma-informed interview techniques;
- Countering witness intimidation and evidence tampering;
- Assessing culpability of victims who may also appear to be potential suspects;
- Alternative charges to consider to increase the likelihood of successful prosecution of co-occurring crimes;
- Confronting common defenses; and

- The value of expert testimony.

Who is this training for? Law enforcement, prosecutors, and analysts who have experience investigating and prosecuting human trafficking (IACP membership is not required). OVC-funded Enhanced Collaborative Model Human Trafficking Task Force members are encouraged to attend.

What will you learn? At the end of this training, participants will be better able to:

- Leverage partnerships, public data, and technology to better identify and investigate human trafficking;
- Meaningfully integrate trauma-informed practices; and
- Implement strategies to hold offenders accountable when victims are unable to participate.

[Register Here](#)

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Department of Justice.

August 28-29 and 30-31, 2023, Boston, MA: Strengthening Community and Organizational Responses: Serving Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking

Hosted by: National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project, American University, Washington College of Law

Overview: This two-day in-person interactive training focuses on providing attorneys, law enforcement, prosecutors, and advocates strategies for strengthening their understanding of legal and victim services options for and best practices when working with immigrant survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This training offers diverse learning experiences delivered by a faculty of multi-disciplinary subject matter experts from a wide range of legal and victim service backgrounds including judges, law enforcement, prosecutors, advocates, and attorneys. Immigrant victim related

training topics will include: stalking; immigration, public benefits, and family law case options, case strategies, and advanced issues; prosecution best practices; primary aggressor determinations; VAWA confidentiality and discovery; police officers as witnesses; multi-disciplinary collaboration; effective outreach; and improving language access. Participants will learn and share practices and strategies to improve immigrant victim safety, increase participation in the justice system, and enhance community safety.

Participants: Each training session is open to OVW Grantee and Subgrantee attorneys, advocates, law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim witness staff from agencies with funding from OVW including STOP subgrantees, Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV), Campus, Culturally Specific Services Program (CSSP), Rural, and Improving Criminal Justice Response (ICJR). All other grantees and grant funded partner agencies must receive prior approval from their OVW Program Specialist to attend. Law enforcement (federal, state, local, and campus), prosecutors, and their agency's victim witness specialists are invited to attend regardless of funding sources.

Each session is limited to 83 people and to two attendees per organization. Registration is on a first come-first served basis. Once capacity has been reached, a waitlist will be created. The training is free but participants are responsible for covering the costs of travel, meals, and accommodations. A limited number of travel scholarships are available only to STOP subgrantees who do not have travel funding in their grant budgets.

For more information, contact Rocio Molina, NIWAP Deputy Director at molina@wcl.american.edu.

[Register Here](#)

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[OJJDP FY 2023 Family Treatment Court Program](#)

With this solicitation, OJJDP seeks to build the capacity of local courts, units of local government, and federally recognized Tribal governments to establish new family treatment courts or enhance existing family treatment courts. These courts increase collaboration with substance use treatment providers and child welfare systems to ensure the provision of treatment and other support services for families, and to improve child, parent, and family outcomes. The deadline to apply is **June 6, 2023 (Grants.gov)** and **June 20, 2023 (JustGrants)**.

[FY 2023 Rural and Small Department Violent Crime Reduction Program](#)

With this solicitation, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) seeks to support small and rural agencies in their efforts to combat violent crime. This program will provide funding to small and/or rural agencies and/or to prosecutors who are interested in implementing or improving the capacity of their organization around one or more critical elements found in the Violent Crime Reductions Operations Guide or the Prosecutors' Guide to Reducing Violence and Building Safer Communities. The deadline to apply is **June 13, 2023 (Grants.gov)** and **June 20, 2023 (JustGrants)**.

For more grant opportunities, please visit grants.gov.



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